



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana*

*10 West Market Street  
Suite 2100  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3048*

*(317)226-6333  
TDD (317)226-5438*

*FAX NUMBERS:  
Criminal (317)226-6125  
Administration (317)226-5176  
Civil (317)226-5027  
FLU (317)226-6133  
OCDETF (317)226-5953*

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***Contact Person:***

**SUSAN W. BROOKS**

United States Attorney

(317) 226-6333

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FELON CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AFTER A TRAFFIC STOP**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that SEAN THOMAS, 27, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was indicted today by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis with the possession of a firearm and ammunition by a person previously convicted of a felony. The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms ("BATF") and the Indianapolis Police Department.

On March 15, 2003, Indianapolis police officers pulled THOMAS over in the vicinity of 3500 South Shelby Street for a traffic infraction. THOMAS fled on foot, but was apprehended by the officers. While conducting a search incident to arrest, the officers found five (5) rounds of .38 caliber ammunition in THOMAS's pocket and a .38 caliber handgun in

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the vehicle he had been driving. THOMAS was prohibited from possessing any firearms or ammunition because he had previously been convicted of felony offenses.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James P. Hanlon, who is prosecuting the case for the government, THOMAS, if convicted, could be sentenced to up to ten years in prison. THOMAS also faces a maximum possible fine of \$250,000.

**The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.**

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